

Haida Gwaii Sailing Adventure

8 Days



Arrival Day | Sandspit

Red Sky at Night

Plan to arrive in Sandspit, Moresby Island, BC, on July 16th, 2024. A taxi transfer and tonight's accommodations at Northern Shores Lodge are included in your trip package.

There is a restaurant conveniently located at the lodge or you may opt to make use of the on-site BBQs and picnic area. There is a Super Valu grocery store 1.2 miles (2 km) from Northern Shores Lodge, where you can pick up fixings of your fancy. Or, simply stretch your legs and wander down to Sandspit Harbour (1.4 miles/2.2 km). There are very few restaurants in this area, so be sure to check their hours online upon arrival!

Accommodations

Northern Shores Lodge



Day 1 | Graham Island & Moresby Island

Anchored Under the Stars

Grab an à la carte breakfast and meet in front of the Northern Shores Lodge for a short local land tour before we board the ferry at Alliford Bay to Skidegate Landing on Graham Island, the largest island in the archipelago.

We stop at the renowned Haida Heritage Centre Kay Llnagaay for an insightful guided tour followed by a traditional Haida lunch hosted by a local family at Keenawii's Kitchen. Following lunch, we walk along Spirit Lake before catching the ferry to Moresby Island. By shuttle, we travel to the ferry dock along an active (and bumpy) logging road.

At Moresby Camp, we board the *Island Odyssey* and meet the seasoned crew. Cabins will be assigned, and we have an introductory and safety orientation with dinner to follow. We spend our first evening anchored under a chandelier of stars.

Included Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Accommodations

Island Odyssey



Day 2 – 7 | The Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve

Supernatural Sailing

Hugging the eastern and southern shores of Moresby Island, we are on high alert for humpback whales, porpoise, sea lions and orcas. For the birders on board, we can check off dozens of species like the rhinoceros auklet, ancient murrelet and tufted puffin. Following creeks and shorelines, we return to child-like amusement, poking around intertidal zones with no timeline.

For the birders on board, you'll be able to check dozens of species off your life list — an estimated 1.5 million seabirds nest along the shorelines of Haida Gwaii! The islands are also a critical landing zone for those traveling the Pacific flyway. Migrating birds stop here in spring and fall en masse. The concentration of bald eagle nests along the Haida Gwaii coast is second only to Admiralty Island in Alaska.

With our expert onboard naturalist, we investigate intertidal areas in search of cool creatures like sea stars, giant barnacles, sponges and sea cucumbers. We may also encounter a pine marten or river otters at play.

We visit the old Haida village and iconic totem poles of SGang Gwaay (Ninstints), a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. If weather permits, we will visit Windy Bay (the name says it all). Among the southern islands are many ancient villages—K'uuna (Skedans), Cumshewa, T'annu and SGang Gwaay (Ninstints). These sites contain the remains of the great longhouses and the best remaining examples of carved poles in the world.

We spend each evening in different secluded anchorages. On our daily shore or small boat excursions, our onboard naturalist will help identify the unique coastal plants, animals, birds and marine life.

You will have time to explore the sheltered coastline using sea kayaks as well! At night, the overhead show has more stars than the Cannes Festival!

Included Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Accommodations

Island Odyssey



Day 8 | Sandspit

Dreams Take Flight

The trip will finish late in the morning with a big sigh. We disembark the vessel before noon at Moresby Camp. From here, our Wild Women crew will be shuttled back to Sandspit Airport (YZP).

We can expect to arrive in Sandspit by midday which allows for time to reminisce and swap stories a little longer at the Sandspit Airport's Shingle Bay Bistro before our flight to Vancouver.

Included Meals

Breakfast



Trip Details

Know Before You Go

For all of the logistical details you'll need to know prior to departure—including the packing list, arrival and departure details and suggested tipping information, click <u>HERE</u>.

Itinerary version as of March 8, 2024.